

Blissymbolics
Communication
Foundation

* gathering
↕ dissemination
⊗ blissymbolics
x much, many

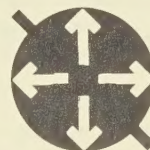
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(416) 425-7835

MARCH, 1977

VOLUME II NUMBER 1



BULLETIN



Here we are with the second issue of the Blissymbolics Communication Foundation Bulletin - our first issue for 1977. We will publish three times this year, *Winter, Summer and Fall*. The Winter and Summer 1977 issues will be sent to everyone on our current mailing list. The *Fall 1977 issue will be sent to BCF Associate Members only*. An application form for Associate Membership is included in this issue.

We welcome your suggestions and comments concerning the content and format of the Bulletin.

BCF BULLETIN and NEWSLETTER

We would like to, once again, emphasize the difference between the BCF Bulletin and the Newsletter. *THE BULLETIN* focuses on the past, present and future activities of the BCF and presents the BCF viewpoint. *THE NEWSLETTER* is a collection of articles from many settings, submitted by parents, teachers, users, etc., involved with Blissymbols, telling of their experiences. This sharing of thoughts is a representation of different viewpoints and readers are encouraged to write and send in their articles to the *NEWSLETTER EDITOR*:

Mrs. Barbara Rush, 64 Magnolia Drive,
Hamilton, Ontario.

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BCF OBJECTIVES

We are including a statement of the BCF objectives for the information of those who are receiving the Bulletin for the first time.

- to serve as a clearing house for standardization of symbols and their use.
- to provide training in Blissymbolics.
- to provide consultant services for the implementation of symbol programmes.
- to develop, produce and distribute materials for symbol communication.
- to facilitate and promote the exchange of information concerning symbol communication.

Charles Bliss continues to be a consultant to the BCF with regard to the creation and use of symbols.

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BCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

G.A. Wilson (Chairman)
T.N. Davidson
D.F. Dineen
J.A. MacDonald
A.W. Robinson

Secretary - J.C. Lemire

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BCF ACTIVITIES

The BCF staff has been kept busy since the last issue of the Bulletin (July 1976) with workshops, conferences, orders, enquiries and growth within our own internal structure. The growing interest in Blissymbolics is becoming evident from the many professional and academic conferences and seminars that have invited BCF representatives to participate.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING

Q,

yesterday

A BCF Advanced Workshop was held at the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre (Toronto) in October, 1976. BCF Elementary Workshops were held in Winnipeg

(Sept.'76), Dayton, Ohio (Oct.'76), Toronto (Nov.'76), Halifax (Nov.'76). The BCF Resource Centre in Sarnia held an Elementary Workshop in December, 1976. The Montreal Resource Centre held an English Elementary Workshop in January 1977 and a French Elementary Workshop in February 1977.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

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today

The BCF is holding an Elementary Workshop in St. Paul, Minn. from March 15-18, 1977.

WHAT'S TO COME

Q,

tomorrow

An upgrading workshop will be held in Toronto on April 25th -26th. There will be an Advanced Workshop from April 27th-29th, 1977

in Toronto.

A BCF Elementary Workshop will take place in St. John's, Newfoundland, from May 3rd-6th, 1977.

The first BCF Convention will be held in Ottawa on June 6th-7th, 1977.

Announcement flyers are being sent to everyone on the BCF mailing list.

Please contact Anne Warrick-Convention Convenor, Ottawa Crippled Children's Treatment Centre, Ottawa, for further information.

There will be a BCF Elementary Workshop in Toronto from July 11th-20th, 1977. The last 3 days of this Workshop will focus on Symbols with the Mentally Retarded. The first 5 days will deal with the symbol system in depth and its general applications.

The BCF now has a mailing list of approximately 1500 people and has received enquiries from 28 countries.

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UPGRADING WORKSHOP

Anyone who has had a symbol instructional workshop in which the BCF has had a consultant role but which has not been accredited by the BCF may attend a special 2 day, upgrading workshop for accreditation. This workshop is to be held April 25th-26th prior to the Advanced Workshop (April 27-29th, 1977). It will be an intensive study of the symbol system, including work sessions and discussion groups. Accreditation of an elementary workshop makes possible attendance at an Advanced Workshop.

Anyone wishing to attend the upgrading workshop should complete the registration form included in this Bulletin and return it to the BCF by April 1st. This special workshop will take place ONLY if there is sufficient registration. We will notify applicants by April 15th, if this workshop will in fact be held. The fee will be \$80.00 for this special workshop.

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BLISS SYMBOL CAMP PROJECT

The Fall, 1976 issue of the BCF Newsletter included an article about a pilot project Bliss Symbol Camp for the Summer of 1977. People interested in helping with this project were asked to contact Elaine Jones at the

BLISSYMBOLICS COMMUNICATION FOUNDATION

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Privileges and Duties of Membership

To promote the objects of The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation throughout the world in using, or teaching or assisting in the development of symbol communication.

To advise The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation individually or in meetings called for the purpose as to symbol usage and development.

To be informed by The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation of current symbol usage and events concerning symbol development.

To assist those whose own language skills are inadequate by providing a workable symbol communication system.

The undersigned herein applies to be an Associate Member of The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation and herein states agreement with the aim of The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation to establish a standardized symbol vocabulary, usage and procedures so that symbol communication shall be common throughout the world despite differing languages and script of the users.

The undersigned herein acknowledges application for Associate Membership in The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation and acknowledges the authority of The Blissymbolics Communication Foundation to set standards for the usage and form of symbol communication and agrees to follow its directions regarding the same, as they may from time to time be issued.

Signed:

Name:

.....

Address:

.....

.....

Date.....

Please enclose \$5.00 fee and return to:

Blissymbolics Communication Foundation
862 Eglinton Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4G 2L1



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COULD YOU PLEASE ASSIST US WITH UP-DATING OUR RECORDS BY
COMPLETING THE FOLLOWING FORM AND RETURN WITH ASSOCIATE
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM. IF APPROPRIATE, INDICATE MORE
THAN ONE CHOICE.

A) I am applying Blissymbols primarily for the following
purpose:

- (1) Communication
- (2) Language development
- (3) Cognitive development
- (4) Development of reading skills
- (5) International communication
- (6) Other, please specify

B) I am working in the application of symbols with:

- (1) The physically-handicapped population
- (2) The mentally-retarded population
- (3) The multiply-handicapped population
- (4) The deaf population
- (5) The aphasic population
- (6) The autistic population
- (7) The blind population
- (8) Stroke patients
- (9) Population with delayed language development
- (10) The normal population
- (11) Other, please specify

C) My work is mainly with:

- (1) Preschoolers
- (2) Children ages (5-12)
- (3) Adolescents (13-21)
- (4) Adults

D) (1) I am currently working with
symbol-users.
(2) I expect to be working with a total of
symbol-users in the future.
(3) There are symbol-users I have
worked with in the past who are now discontinued.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

Sarnia and District Crippled Children's Treatment Centre, Sarnia, Ontario. So far the response has been limited. The new issue (Spring 1977) of the Newsletter contains another article about the proposed Camp and a more detailed description of the kind of help that is needed to make the Camp a reality. Please contact Elaine Jones if you can help with this project.

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SURVEY OF INTEREST RESULTS

Our July, 1976 Bulletin included a Survey of Interest sheet that we asked you to fill out and send in to us. As a result of the survey: *the BCF will be working toward the production and distribution of Worksheets; a general description of Blissentration will be included in the Handbook and Alan Aylward, originator of the game, will continue to explore production possibilities; and "I Have a Flower" the symbol story by Jacqueline Krech, will be available in the summer of 1977.*

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BCF HANDBOOK

The BCF Handbook is now in the final stages of preparation.

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TEACHING AID SLIDES "SAY IT WITH SYMBOLS"

"Say It With Symbols" a visual teaching aid and a joint undertaking of the BCF and the National Film Board of Canada, will be ready by April 1st. It is a set of slides designed to present the meanings and uses of approximately 250 symbols. The slides will be accompanied by a complete teaching manual. One set of the full 15 series (750 slides) will be available from the BCF on a loan basis with a service charge for handling and mailing costs. The 15 series are available in 3 groups:

(1) elementary-an introduction to symbols; (2) intermediate-includes 3 symbol strategies; (3) advanced-4 stories using symbols. Each group contains approximately 5 series of slides. The service charge will be \$5.00 per group or \$15.00 for the entire 15 (750 slides) series. Enquiries should be directed to Carol Donnelly at the BCF.

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PRESENTATIONS and AUDIO/VISUAL LOAN MATERIALS

Many people have requested materials from the BCF to be used in preparation for talks and presentations about Blissymbolics. The BCF has defined the different types of presentations as follows:

- (1) Orientation Talks: These entail a brief, general overview of the history and development, and the current application of Blissymbolics.
- (2) In-Service Presentations: An in-depth educational presentation directed to the supportive "significant others" (i.e. staff, parents, community professionals) to enable them to assist with the follow-up but not to direct an on-going symbol programme.
- (3) Workshops: Sessions of intensive instruction in the symbol system and its application. Workshops are accredited only when given by authorized BCF workshop leaders.

FOR PRESENTATION PURPOSES THE FOLLOWING AUDIO/VISUAL LOAN MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE:

VIDEO TAPES: Sensory City
 Parent Involvement
 Individual Children
 Joseph Kaebler School

FILMS: McKay Centre, Montreal

*NOTE: The films "Mr. Symbol Man" and "Symbol Boy" are available from the National Film Board of Canada (or the local library) in Canada and from Benchmark Films, Briarcliff Manor, New York, in the U.S.A.

CASSETTE TAPES:

Sound track from
"Parent Involvement"

SLIDES: "Say It With Symbols"

SERVICE CHARGES:

Videotapes - \$10.00 each

Film - \$15.00

Slides - \$ 5.00 per set

Cassette Tape - \$ 5.00

All audio/visual materials should be booked as far in advance as possible.

Materials must be returned to the BCF office one week after the viewing date as loan items are in short supply. The service charge will be increased by 50% for each day that materials are overdue. Invoices will be sent out after the materials have been returned.

All bookings should be directed to Carol Donnelly at the BCF office.

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SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

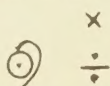
Anyone who wishes to have an article concerning Blissymbolics published is asked to first submit that article to the BCF to ensure that the standardized form of the symbols appears. *Please send your manuscript to Jinny Storr at the BCF office.*

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NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

We are trying to keep our Publicity File up-to-date and we need your help. Please send in copies of articles from your local newspapers that concern Blissymbolics, noting the source, geographical location and the date of publication.
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

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newspaper clippings

JOB POSTINGS AND POSITIONS WANTED



jobs



workers

A "Positions Available" and "Positions Wanted" column is available as a service to the Bulletin readers. Simply type out and send in your advertisement to the BCF-marked "Bulletin". The deadline date for advertisements to be placed in the Summer issue is June 15th, 1977.

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OLYMPIAD SCARVES

ABOUT THOSE OLYMPIAD SCARVES - WE'RE SORRY!!!

We have received many orders for our souvenir Olympiad Scarves since we first offered them for sale last Summer. You have all been very patient with us over the months as we tried, repeatedly and unsuccessfully, to find a material that would accept the dye and could be made into an attractive scarf. We now have to admit defeat! We cannot produce the scarf and we heartily apologize to all of you who have been kept waiting for such a long time. Your checks, money-orders, etc. will be returned to you as soon as possible. If you have not received your refund by March 30th, 1977, please contact Tony Nguyen at the BCF.

WE ARE SORRY!!!!

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THE BLISS SYMBOL SCANNER

The Prentke Romich Company, Shreve, Ohio, has developed an electronic aid, the BLISS SYMBOL SCANNER (BSS-100) for the non-speaking, physically handicapped. The BSS-100 utilizes the Blissymbol 100 vocabulary in a 13"H x 17"W x 2"D six pound case,

with a small lamp in the upper corner of each symbol square. The user, by means of a control switch or a push-button on the side panel, can select, through row scanning, any of the 100 locations.

The user scans down a column and then across to select a symbol. The lamp at the selected location will flash until turned off. The scan rate is adjustable. An audible signal can be turned on by the user to request attention. An optional memory with the capacity to store up to 40 entries for display in rapid sequence is available. For further information contact: The Prentke Romich Company, R.D.2, Box 191, Shreve, Ohio, 44676.

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THE APPLICATION OF BLISSYMBOLS

Recently, some of you will have received a letter of enquiry about your programme, specifically in the application of symbols with the retarded, deaf, and adult (particularly stroke patients) populations. Anyone who is involved in exploring the application of symbols with these or other populations such as autistic, aphasic, etc., or for purposes such as language development or reading readiness, is urged to describe that programme including information such as:

The number of symbol users involved
How they were selected

The programme implemented

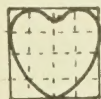
Results to date

Please submit these records to Barbara Kates at the BCF.

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT DRAWING BLISSYMBOLS

Most symbols can be drawn within a square matrix divided into quarter spaces.



feeling (emotion)



water



man



mind



x equals centre

sky line
mid line
ground line

It is helpful, therefore, to use graph paper when drawing symbols. A one inch square matrix, divided into quarter inch spaces, is a practical size for general purposes.

Instructions on how to draw Blissymbols are available in the Teaching Guidelines (December 1975). More detailed instructions including suggestions for using a template to draw symbols will appear in the new Handbook.

In anticipation of the world-wide movement toward the metric system, the BCF is in the process of developing a template of symbol shapes in the metric measurements which should be available for purchase in the course of 1977. For further particulars keep your eye on the BULLETIN. For recording Blissymbols "dictated" by a symbol user, free hand drawing may be the fastest, most practical method. Be sure, however, to observe the distinctions in size, position, direction, etc., which determine the meaning of a symbol.

On the other hand, in preparing symbols for display or classroom use, graph paper and/or a template will facilitate accuracy of drawing, which in turn will reinforce the learning process.

If you contemplate using Blissymbols in any published form (eg. as illustrations in an article, or in a symbol newspaper distributed outside your setting);

(1) the symbols must be drawn accurately, to scale;

(2) the symbols used must be submitted to the BCF for approval of form while the material is still in manuscript;

(3) the Blissymbols cited must be accompanied by a copyright statement obtainable from the BCF.

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A NOTE FOR SYMBOL USERS

The **(B)** sign following a Blissymbol indicates the BCF version of a symbol and/or explanation rather than C.K. Bliss' version. The **(B)*** sign indicates the BCF version, subject to further revision.

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FUNDING NEWS

The KELLOGG FOUNDATION OF BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN, in the Fall of 1976, awarded the BCF a grant covering a two year period. The grant provides funds for the operating costs of the BCF and contributes to the establishment of a number of Resource Centres in North America.

More recently, the ATKINSON CHARITABLE FOUNDATION has accepted and funded a proposal from the BCF for the production of a Dictionary of Blissymbols in English and French editions. This is a two-year project.

Most recently, HEALTH AND WELFARE CANADA, WELFARE GRANTS DIRECTORATE, has authorized a grant that will enable the BCF to employ a Liaison Officer with support services, to act as a resource in dealing with and assisting social agencies, resource centres and other community organizations.

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GREAT NEWS!!

The Blissymbolics U.K. Steering Committee has been awarded a two year grant by the National Fund for Research in Crippling Diseases to establish a RESOURCE CENTRE IN BRITAIN.

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